DTC Losses

*6. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK; Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation has been continuously incurring losses over the years;

(b) whether the accounts of the DTC for 1987-88 have been compiled and audited, if so, what is the total loss incurred by it as on lst April, 1988; and

(c) whether Government have since worked out the modalities of the sc-heme to permit operation of private buses under STA permits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PI-LOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 1987-83 accounts have not been audited.

(c) No, Sir.

French offer of Technology for mo-dernisation of railways

•7. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: SHRI KAPIL VERMA;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether France .has offered to transfer her sophisticated technology to help India modernise her Railways, particularly in the development of superfast trains and the manufacture of most modern locomotives;

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditions in this regard and the major projects to be taken up; and

(c) whether. India has agreed to the French suggestion for joint development of superfast Delhi-Agra-Kanpur train; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) An Indo-French Protocol for co-operation in the field of railways has been signed recently. It covers the following areas for special consideration:

(i) High Speed Technology.

(ii) Improving Existing Electric and Diesel rolling stock of Indian Railways.

(iii) Speeding up the exising Passenger Trains.

(iv) Modernisation of a Passen-ger Terminal.

(v) Suburban Transport.

(vi) Management.

(vii) Technical Development of modern train control systems.

Both parties shall provide each other technical assistance on the basis of agreements to be negotiated on a case by case basis.

(c) A pre-feasibility study of a new high speed line for Delhi-Agra-Kanpur route has been agreed to by Indian Railways and Ministry of Transports, France.

Use of drugs to control blindness

*8. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleas-ed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ch-loramphenocol, Tetra-cycline, Vitamin A, Gentamycin, Neomycin, Fra-mycetin, Hydrocortisone, Betamethasone, Oxytetracycline and Dexame-thasone are being used for the treatment of eye diseases and to control blindness;